

MEMORANDUM

TO: Indiana State Board of Education
FROM: Office of School Accountability, Indiana Department of Education
DATE: February 22, 2017
RE: SY 2016-17 School & Corporation Accreditation Statuses

SCHOOL ACCREDITATION STATUS

Pursuant to Ind. Code § 20-31-4-3(a), the Indiana State Board of Education (Board) must assign each school an accreditation status. 511 IAC 6.1-1-11 outlines the criteria for four categories of accreditation that may be assigned to schools. The table below provides information on the accreditation status criteria.

ACCREDITATION TYPE	CRITERIA
Full	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School receives an A, B or C rating on Indiana’s accountability system AND • School complies with legal standards
Provisional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School receives a D rating on Indiana’s accountability system OR • School receives an F rating on Indiana’s accountability system OR • School receives up to 3 consecutive F ratings on Indiana’s accountability system
Provisional: Legal Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School not already identified as “provisional” AND • School does not comply with all legal standards
Probationary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School receives four consecutive F ratings on Indiana’s accountability system

In addition to the accreditation types listed above, a school may either be state accredited, charter accredited or freeway accredited. Charter accreditation is reserved only for charter schools. Freeway accreditation is extended to both public and nonpublic schools under Ind. Code § 20-26-15. Neither charter accredited nor freeway accredited schools are required to comply with legal standards.

Because accreditation status relies heavily on the receipt of a letter grade, the Indiana Department of Education consulted with Board staff to determine the accreditation status of a school that did not receive a letter grade. Staffs agreed that schools that did not receive a letter grade should be afforded “full accreditation” status to avoid assigning a penalty for something beyond the control of the school.

The Department identified the rating of each school based on the criteria outlined above. Statewide, 82.83% of schools receive the status of “full accreditation” for the 2016-17 school

year, and only 1.08% of schools receive the status of “probationary accreditation” for the 2016-17 school year. Please see the table below for further summary information on accreditation statuses for 2016-17.

The Department recommends that the Board approve the accreditation statuses assigned to schools for the 2016-17 school year based on the criteria outlined in 511 IAC 6.1-1-11.

	Statewide		State Accredited		Charter Accredited		Freeway Accredited	
Full	1766	82.23%	1573	83.40%	65	69.89%	128	83.66%
Provisional	273	12.80%	222	11.77%	26	27.96%	25	16.34%
Provisional: Legal Standard	70	3.28%	70	3.71%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Probationary	23	1.08%	21	1.11%	2	2.15%	0	2.15%

CORPORATION ACCREDITATION STATUS

Pursuant to Ind. Code § 20-31-4-4, a school corporation shall be awarded full accreditation status when all of the schools in the corporation achieve full accreditation status, or when all of the schools do not achieve full accreditation status but the schools within the corporation are in “substantial compliance” with full accreditation standards.

In order to determine whether a corporation was in “substantial compliance” with full accreditation status, the Department looked at whether more than 50% of schools within the corporation attained full accreditation status. If more than 50% of schools within the corporation attained full accreditation then the corporation was awarded “full” accreditation. If 50% or less of the schools within the corporation attained full accreditation then the corporation was awarded “provisional” accreditation.

The Department recommends that the Board approve the accreditation statuses assigned to corporations for the 2016-17 school year based on Ind. Code § 20-31-4-4.

	# Corporations	% Corporations
Full	265	92.01%
Provisional	23	7.99%